

430 Rec'd. PTO 09/581878  
19 JUN 2000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of )  
Tadahiro OHMI et al. ) Group:  
Serial No.: )  
Filed: June 19, 2000 ) Examiner:  
Title: SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING )  
APPARATUS )

6/14  
CA  
10/31/00

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant hereby submits the following Amendment.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 12 please delete "Prior Art" and replace it  
with --Background of the Invention.--

Page 2, line 7 after "such" please insert --,--.

Page 2, line 7 after "as" please insert --by--.

Page 3, line 24 after "lifetime" please insert --of the  
tool--.

Page 4, line 3 please delete "Disclosure of the Invention"  
and replace it with --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

Page 6, please insert before the first paragraph discussing  
Fig. 1 the following text:

A'  
The above-mentioned and other features and advantages of  
this invention, and the manner of attaining them, will become  
more apparent and the invention will be better understood by